

Amendment to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A thermoplastic blend composition ~~comprising~~
consisting of:

A) from 75 to 99 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition, of a thermoplastic polyolefin composition, which comprises the following:

(a) from 50 to 100 weight percent of polypropylene, HDPE, or a mixture thereof; and

(b) from 0 to 50 weight percent of a first ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymers having a density from 0.870 to less than, or equal to, 0.9130 g/cm³; and

B) from 1 to 25 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition, of an extender, comprising a second ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymers, other than component A)(b), and having the following properties: (a) a density of at least 0.855, and less than, or equal to, 0.8900 g/cm³ ~~0.8990 g/cm³~~; and (b) a Brookfield Viscosity, at 350°F, from 500 cP to 50,000 cP, and wherein the second ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymers is a copolymer; and

at least one additive selected from the group consisting of fillers, antioxidants, cling additives, antiblock additives, colorants, pigments, waxes, nucleating agents, extender oils, flame retardants, tackifiers, and combinations thereof, and

wherein the melt index of said thermoplastic blend composition is increased by at least 5 percent, relative to that of said thermoplastic polyolefin composition.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic blend composition of Claim 1, wherein Component A) is present in an amount from 80 to 98 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition; and

Component B) is present in an amount from 2 to 20 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition, and wherein the second ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymers has (a) a density of less than 0.8900 g/cm³, and (b) a Brookfield Viscosity, at 350°F, of at least 500 cP, but less than 50,000 cP; and

wherein the melt index of said thermoplastic blend composition is increased by at least 10 percent, relative to that of said thermoplastic polyolefin composition.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic blend composition of Claim 1, wherein Component A) is present in an amount from 85 to 97 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition; and

Component B) is present in an amount from 2 to 20 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition, and wherein the second ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymers has (a) a density of less than 0.8800 g/cm³, and (b) a Brookfield Viscosity, at 350°F, of at least 500 cP, but less than 40,000 cP; and wherein the melt index of said thermoplastic blend composition is increased by at least 15 percent, relative to that of said thermoplastic polyolefin composition.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, 2, or 3, wherein the interpolymers of Component B is a substantially linear ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 4, wherein the substantially linear ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer has a density in the range from 0.860 to 0.880 g/cm³.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A film, fiber, coating, or molded article formed from the composition of Claim 1.

Claim 7 (Canceled)

Claim 8 (Canceled)

Claim 9 (Canceled)

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, wherein Component B) is present in an amount from 2 to 20 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, wherein Component B) is present in an amount from 3 to 15 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, wherein Component A) is present in an amount from 80 to 98 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, wherein Component A) is present in an amount from 85 to 97 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, wherein the second ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymer has a Brookfield Viscosity, at 350°F, from 4,000 cP to 50,000 cP.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): An article comprising at least one component formed from the composition of Claim 1.

Claim 16 (Canceled)

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A thermoplastic blend composition consisting of:
A) from 75 to 99 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition, of a thermoplastic polyolefin composition, which consists essentially of the following:

- (a) from 50 to 100 weight percent of polypropylene, HDPE or a mixture thereof; and

(b) from 0 to 50 weight percent of a first ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymers having a density from 0.870 to less than, or equal to, 0.9130 g/cc; and

B) from 1 to 25 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition, of an extender consisting essentially of a second ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymers, other than component A)(b), and having the following properties: (a) a density of less than 0.8990 g/cm³, and (b) a Brookfield Viscosity, at 350°F, from 500 cP to 50,000 cP, and wherein the second ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymers is a copolymer; and

one or more additives selected from the group consisting of antioxidants, cling additives, antiblock additives, colorants, pigments, waxes, nucleating agents, extender oils, flame retardants, tackifiers and combinations thereof; and

wherein the melt index of said thermoplastic blend composition is increased by at least 5 percent relative to that of said thermoplastic polyolefin composition.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 1, wherein Component B) is present in an amount from 2 to 20 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): An article comprising at least one component formed from the composition of Claim 17.

Claims 20-21 (Canceled)

Claim 22 (Canceled)

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 17, wherein Component A) is present in an amount from 85 to 97 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic blend composition.

Claim 24 (New): The composition of Claim 17, wherein the copolymer of Component B has a density less than 0.8800 g/cm³.